

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-20, 22-27, 29-31, 39-41, and 43 are pending in the application. Claims 3, 11, 21, 28, 32-38, 42, and 44 were previously canceled. Claims 18, 25, and 39 are independent claims and currently amended.

No new matter is introduced by these amendments and their entry is respectfully requested. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-2, 4-10, and 12-17 are allowed. However, Applicants believe the remaining pending claims as amended are also in condition for allowance and reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Examiner's Interview

Applicants would also like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of granting Applicants' representatives an Examiner's interview on September 3, 2008, wherein the Examiner clarified which claims contained allowable subject matter.

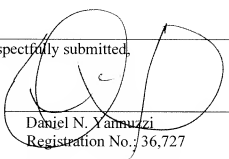
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 18-20, 22-27, 29-31, 39-41 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed toward non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have currently amended independent claims 18, 25, and 39 and, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of these independent claims and the claims that respectively depend from them in view of these amendments.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-4562 referencing Docket No. 16LN-133588. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: September 10, 2009	<p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>By: </p> <p>Daniel N. Yamuzzi Registration No. 36,727</p> <p>SHEPPARD MULLIN RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP 333 South Hope Street, 48th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071-1448 Telephone: (858) 720-8900 Facsimile: (858) 509-3691</p>
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